

INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

County of Los Angeles

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DEANNE TILTON DURFEE
Executive Director

September 10, 2013

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Los Angeles

383 Hahn Hall of Administration

500 West Temple Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

11 September 10, 2013

Dear Supervisors:

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND TREATMENT FUNDING (AB 2994 SURPLUS CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND) 3 VOTES

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve extending the funding allocation for an additional 2 years from surplus funds available through AB 2994 for one Sole Source contract previously approved by the Board and authorize and delegate authority to the Director, or designee, of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to execute this contract extension as follows :
 - Contract #09-017-01 with **Friends Outside** in Los Angeles County for the Incarcerated Parents Program in the annual contract sum of \$68,786, for Foster Child Visitation with Incarcerated Parents for two (2) additional years from February 1, 2014 to January 31, 2016 for a maximum contract sum of \$412,716.
2. Authorize and delegate authority to the DCFS Director, or designee, to execute amendments, including an increase in funding up to 25% of the maximum contract sum, and/or to change/expand delivery of services to other County jail facilities, as needed.



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BACKGROUND

In 1982, the Governor of California signed into law two bills aimed at preventing and treating child abuse and neglect. The first bill, Assembly Bill (AB) 1733/Papan (Chapter 1398, Statutes of 1982), authorized the allocation of state funding to counties for child abuse prevention and intervention services offered by public and private, non-profit agencies.

The second law, AB 2994/Imbrecht (Chapter 1399, Statutes of 1982), established a County Children's Trust Fund for the purpose of funding child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs operated by private, nonprofit organizations. AB 2994 requires that \$4.00 of any fee for a certified copy of a birth certificate shall be paid to a County Children's Trust Fund.

Both of these laws provide that a designated multi-disciplinary child abuse council develop and recommend funding priorities to the Board of Supervisors. In Los Angeles County, the designated child abuse council is the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN).

As discussed in the adopted Board Letters first approving funding for this program, ICAN engaged in a very serious and lengthy process to review and evaluate the proposal for this program. ICAN formed a special Ad Hoc Group comprised of members from numerous County and City agencies including the Department of Children and Family Services, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation Department, Department of Public Social Services, Department of Health Services, Los Angeles County Office of Education, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office and the Community Child Abuse Councils. This Ad Hoc Group held face-to-face meetings and engaged in an extensive process to vet this proposal so that any concerns could be addressed, and to reach consensus regarding recommending approval for funding this program. During this process, the Ad Hoc Group made some recommendations for improvements to this proposal. This program was also approved by the ICAN Policy Committee.

Specialized programs are currently funded in all five supervisorial districts. Similar requests to either re-fund currently funded programs or to fund a new program for each of the other districts will be submitted as the program



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contracts near completion and a decision to renew the current program or fund a new program is made by each district.

JUSTIFICATION

Initially, this program was set up as a two-year demonstration project. Given the complicated process of developing the Statement of Work (SOW) and negotiating the contract with Friends Outside, services were initiated later than initially anticipated. However, this program is now well entrenched in the Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF) and hopes to expand its services to other County jail facilities.

In its work, Friend's Outside in Los Angeles County, in collaboration with DCFS and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, is working to decrease the emotional trauma experienced by children resulting from their parents' incarceration. The Incarcerated Parents Program creates opportunities for improved contact between parents and their children and works to ensure that these relationships are nurtured. Case management services are also provided to the parents while incarcerated to assist them in accessing services to address any underlying issues and to support increased communication and attachment with their children. Increased visitation and communication has proved to have an impact in decreased recidivism and decreased time to reunification within the child welfare and criminal justice systems.

With the implementation of the State realignment (AB 109), visitation opportunities will increase as parents will be incarcerated in County facilities for a longer period of time rather than being transferred to a State prison. Longer stays in County facilities should help to sustain a more regular visitation schedule. In fact, the numbers of visits that have taken place over the last several months have increased due to longer stays by mothers at CRDF. The program seeks to serve all inmates housed in any Los Angeles County jail facility to ensure the broadest use of the services provided through this program.

This program has received positive feedback and evaluative information from the Program Staff at DCFS who monitor this program. In addition, there have



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been three outstanding evaluations from an Independent Evaluator and, in fact, IPP has been recognized with receipt of a Los Angeles County Productivity and Quality Award in 2012 and the National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award in 2013. All involved with this program believe that the services provided are critical, meet an otherwise unmet need and should be extended for an additional two years.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to the County. AB 2994 funds stem from birth certificate surcharge funds deposited into the County's Children's Trust Fund. The DCFS Finance Section has assured ICAN that sufficient funds remain with the Children's Trust Fund to continue funding this program for an additional two years.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

DCFS has responsibility for administering contracts between the County and private, non-profit community based agencies that receive funding through AB 2994. The overall goal of this funding is to support child abuse prevention, intervention and treatment efforts and activities to help protect the families and children of Los Angeles County.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deanne Tilton".

Deanne Tilton

Executive Director

Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN)

DT:es

c: Sheriff Leroy Baca, ICAN Chairperson
William Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Phillip Browning, Director, DCFS
ICAN Policy Committee
Children's Board Deputies

